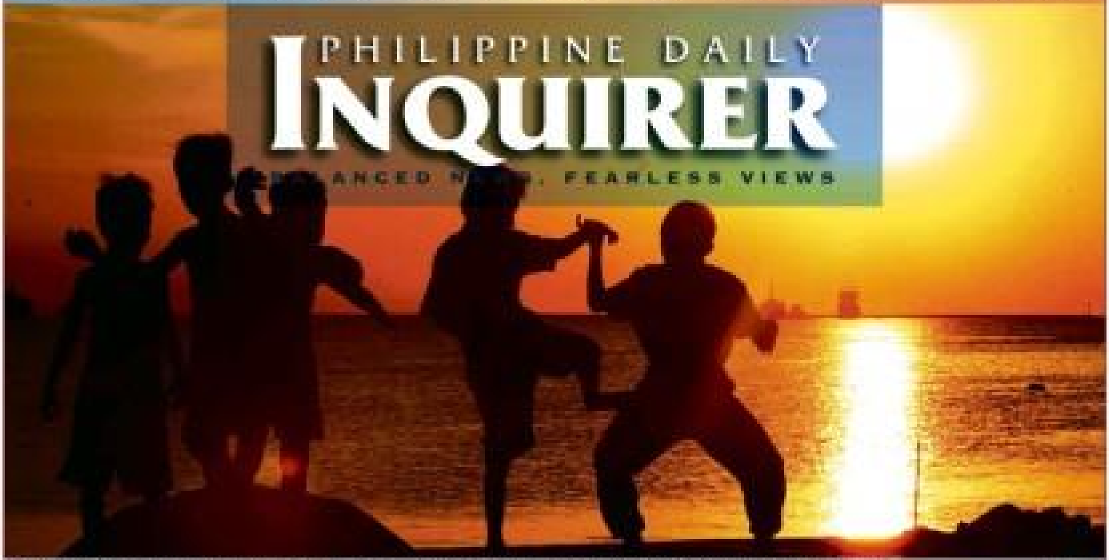
Saturday, April 21, 2012 ★★ 9 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 132 P18 | Mobile Alert: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467 | www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



SUMMER OF 2012 Children frolic along Roxas Boulevard as the sun slips serenely, intensely, surely into the horizon to create that daily spectacular of the Manila Bay sunset.

'We're not intimidated'

PNP chief says why Palparan hard to find

By Doris Z. Pazzibugan and Carmela Reyes-Estrope
Inquirer Central Luzon

EVEN the chief of the Philippine National Police has admitted that capturing fugitive Army Gen. Jovito Palparan is proving to be "difficult," as the former military commander has been trained in exactly the same way as his pursuers.

Palparan carries a P500,000 bounty for his capture.

PNP chief Director General Nicanor Bartolome said that with the entire PNP forces all over the country on alert for the country's most high-profile fugitives, it will be "just a matter of time" before the authorities run down their quarry.

He mentioned in particular Dinagat Rep. Ruben Ecleo Jr. whose conviction for the 2005 murder of his wife was recently

PNP CHIEF/A11

SMC chief Ramon Ang now also PAL president

By Doris C. Dumlao

SAN MIGUEL Corp. has taken over management control of publicly listed PAL Holdings—the parent company of flag carrier Philippine Airlines—following a recent $500-million buy-in deal with the group of taipan Lucio Tan.

SMC took five out of 11 board seats, one of which was occupied by SMC president Ramon S. Ang who was also named president and chief operating officer of PAL Holdings, replacing longtime president Jaime Bautista, according to a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Ex-

SMC CHIEF/A11

China vessel's arrival 'an aggravation'

EARTH DAY MAY DAY Former Miss Earth Philippines Sandra Seifert, a longtime vegetarian and environmentalist, poses for a conservation ad with the Earth's oceans and continents painted on her body to make the case for the good earth. The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals hosted the photo shoot.

By Norman Bordadora

THE PHILIPPINES will not be cowed by China's deploying a large patrol vessel to Panatag Shoal in the West Philippine Sea, Malacañang said yesterday.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) sees this action as "an aggravation" in the 13-day standoff in the disputed shoal.

The Palace also said other countries' territorial claims in the disputed waters would be affected if China had its way at Panatag Shoal.

DFA spokesperson Raul Hernandez confirmed yesterday that China has again beefed up its presence in the area with the arrival in the area of a third maritime surveillance vessel.

"There are now three Chinese maritime surveillance ships in the area; the third one arrived this morning," he said, adding that the Philippines' lone Coast Guard vessel, the BRP Edsa, also remains in the area.

"It's a civilian ship from the fisheries department of China. That was confirmed by our Philippine Coast Guard in the area, but there is no report whether it was the gunboat," he said.

"Our Coast Guard said it is

WE'RE NOT/A4

PH in no-win situation vs world's third military power / A8

Erap volunteers to be P-Noy's love guru

By Cathy C. Yamsuan

CALL IT expert advice.

Former President Joseph "Erap" Estrada has volunteered to become President Aquino's consultant on romantic ties, apparently noting that the incumbent is having difficulty latching on to a long-term relationship.

The offer came during Estrada's 75th birthday bash on Thursday night which was attended by supporters, friends and family, including his wife, former Sen. Dr. Luisa "Loi" Ejercito, his 12 children with six different women and about two dozen grandchildren.

"I'm opening myself to be your adviser in your love life," Estrada told Mr. Aquino.

ERAP/A6

SC voids 2 Erap EOs to use coco levy funds

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE SUPREME Court has voided two executive orders of deposed President Joseph "Erap" Estrada that sought to privatize the 27 percent share in San Miguel Corp. (SMC) stock that had been bought with coconut levy funds, ostensibly to help coconut farmers and the country's agriculture sector.

The high court said Executive Order No. 312 and EO 313 should be struck down, saying that the coco levy funds are public funds and should not be outside the audit jurisdiction of the Commission on Audit (COA).

"Since coco levy funds are taxes, the provisions of EOs 312 and 313 that remove such funds

SC VOIDS/A8

Oslo mass killer practiced attack playing video war games for hours

OSLO, Norway—Anders Behring Breivik knew it would take practice to be able to slaughter dozens of people before being shot by police. In a chilling account, the far-right fanatic claimed he sharpened his aim by playing the video game "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare" for hours on end.

Breivik told an Oslo court he also took steroids to build physical strength and meditated to "de-emotionalize" himself before the bombing and shooting rampage that left 77 people dead. He figured he had no more than a 5-percent chance of not being killed by police.

His lack of remorse and matter-of-fact description of weapons and tactics—he even considered using a flame thrower—were deeply disturbing to families of the victims, most of whom were teenagers.

Many in the court were in tears as Breivik—charged with "acts of terror"—described in detail on Thursday the shooting massacre on a Norwegian island last year.

"They perceive him as evil and dangerous and repulsive," said Mette Yvonne

OSLO/A11

Films, books inspired murderers / A13

Second FrontPage

Lawmakers, gov't execs warned vs SALN gaps

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Irregularities are clues

P-Noy wants ERC to review Visayas power rate hike

By Norman Bordadora

MACTAN CITY—President Aquino yesterday expressed doubts about the power rate increase that the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) had recently approved for implementation in the Visayas, and said that a review of the decision is in order.

Congress first

Not happy

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ADBOARD IN MALACAÑANG

PNP fears resurgence of private armies

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

New Comelec exec must have no IT links—PPCRV

By Jocelyn R. Uy

Cops go on offensive vs NPA rebs in crime

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

Airlines hail gov't move for airports to open 24/7

Hackers deface UP website with pro-China slogan on Panatag standoff

By Julie M. Aurelio

HACKERS defaced the website of the University of the Philippines (UP) System early Friday, posting a map of China on its home page with the words "We come from China! Huangyan Island is ours!"

The UP system website (www.up.edu.ph) was temporarily shut down and was still inaccessible as of press time yesterday. Portals of specific UP campuses, however, were still online.

A UP official said its computer experts are still restoring the website.

The hacking incident came amid a struggle for control of the country's Panatag Shoal which is being claimed by both the Philippines and China.

China calls the shoal Huangyan Island.

Arao, also the assistant vice president for public affairs, said the hacking happened at around 1 a.m. Friday.

"No vital data in the server was compromised, according to the University Computer Center," said Prof. Danilo Arao, director of the System Information Office.

He said he was alerted on the matter by some media practitioners and UP officials who stumbled on the defaced website.

"We strongly denounce the attempt to deprive the UP community of vital information, particularly the April issue of the UP Newsletter which was uploaded recently," Arao said.

The UP System website is the main portal to the university and its different campuses and units. It offers information, news updates and announcements for UP constituents.

Arao added that UP information technology administrators will get the website back on line as soon as possible.

Across the NATION

BOC won't allow chromite haul export

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—The Bureau of Customs (BOC) will not issue clearances to at least six small-scale miners, who were given permits by Zambales Gov. Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. and who were allegedly engaged in the theft of mineral ore in the province, Customs Commissioner Rozzano Rufino Biazon said on Wednesday.

Probe sought on sea mishap involving US soldiers

SUMMER DIP

Aga's residency in Camarines Sur town questioned

NEWSBRIEFS

Gun syndicate leader arrested

Woman held for drugs

4 rebels slain

78 Taiwanese linked to fraud can't be charged in PH—cop exec

INQUIRER Visayas

E-mail us: ... Website: www.inquirer.net/regions

Editor: Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief: Connie E. Fernandez

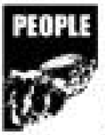
'He never let go of the Ecleo case'

By Chartene Ural and Ador Mayol
Cebu City

HE IS ONE of those judges who cannot be intimidated. Judge Soliver Peras of Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 10 in Cebu City didn't flinch when the parricide case of Rep. Ruben Ecleo Jr. of Dinagat Island was raffled off to his sala in 2009.

He also didn't hesitate to convict Ecleo, the "supreme master" of the cult Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA), for killing his wife, Alona, and sentence him to at least 30 years' imprisonment.

Peras, 53, ordered Ecleo to pay P23 million in compensatory damages, representing the amount that Alona would have earned had she been able to finish and practice medicine for 30 years.



Many Cebuanos, as well as other judges, admire Peras' courage but worry about his safety.

"Every time a judge decides a highly emotional case, there is always that security problem, especially since judges are very vulnerable due to lack of security," said RTC Judge Meinrado Paredes, a ... chair on security at the Palace of Justice.

Basis for fear

Their fears are not without basis.

Alona's parents and two siblings were killed by a PBMA member at the family residence in Barangay Sabang, Dumaguete City, in the evening of June 9, 2002.

At that time, policemen were engaged in a heavy gunfight with Ecleo's supporters who barricaded their leader's mansion on Dinagat to prevent his arrest. Sixteen PBMA members and a policeman were killed.

Another PBMA member walked into the house of private prosecutor Adrian Dra. Ana Pong... in Cebu City in the morning of Oct. 11, 2003, and shot her in the face, hand and neck while she was reading the Bible.

Six judges had inhibited themselves from handling the Ecleo case during the course of the trial that spanned 10 years. In 2009, the case landed on the sala of Peras.

Stickler for rules

Peras, a military reservist, is known in the Palace of Justice to be feisty and a stickler for rules. He would not mince words to those who had violated policies.

Protective of his privacy, he rarely grants media interviews and spends most of his time in his chamber.

But Peras is also known for being security-conscious. There were instances when he brought along high-powered firearms while walking from the entrance of the Palace of Justice to his courtroom.

A court employee, who requested anonymity, described Peras as intelligent and brave. "He never let go of the Ecleo case unlike the other judges," the employee said.

Peras explained that a judge must assume that a threat exists in every case he handles because "the party planning to kill you will not tell you they will."

> A judge must assume that a threat exists in every case he handles

Threats, he stressed, are part of the judge's job.

"When you take your oath of office, it means you're ready to face cases that are controversial enough. When the first sign of threat takes place, you should not pick up your bags and inhibit yourself," Peras said.

Even if it was a high-profile case, Peras said he treated the Ecleo case like any others lodged before him.

"I have already disposed of a lot of murder cases ... It (parricide case) was ordinary. If I treat it as important, it would be unfair to the other cases," he said.

He was only intimidated by the voluminous court records, which took him two months to study to come up with a decision. He had to evaluate all the pieces of evidence, as well as testimonies of the witnesses.

"Of course, I also have to consider other cases. I think, I made a leave of absence for two weeks for these on Ecleo's cases," he said.

Peras said his life had not changed after handing the guilty verdict on Ecleo. "I don't even have bodyguards," he said. His family is based in Manila.

Ateneo Law product

A product of Ateneo Law School, Peras became a lawyer in 1985. Two years later, he worked as a confidential lawyer of Supreme Court Associate Justice Jose Feria Jr.

It was Feria who influenced him to consider the judiciary. "A lot of what he had done made me and influenced me to become a judge," he said.

In 1995, Peras was appointed RTC judge in Cebu City.

Peras acknowledged that being a judge was not easy; the job was difficult and there were many temptations.

If he didn't practice law and become a judge, Peras said he would have been a farmer. "In a farm, you can grow everything. You can take care of farm animals like chickens and goats," he said.

Lauded for giving justice to the family of Alona, Peras said he believed that the country's justice system is working.

He, however, said that if the executive and legislative branches of the government wanted a first-class judicial system, then they should give a "world-class budget" to the judiciary.

Eye surgery for poor in flying hospital

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Iloilo City

ERNA PASOL had thought she was going to be operated on to remove a cataract while flying thousands of feet in the air.

"I was hoping to wake up in the United States," Pasol, 64, a resident of Barangay Nabitasan in Leganes town in Iloilo province, said in jest.

The surgery was indeed performed inside a refurbished DC-10 jet but the aircraft was parked on the tarmac of the Iloilo International Airport in Cabatuan town in Iloilo.

Pasol was among 74 eye patients who availed themselves of free medical and surgical services in a three-week program of Orbis International's Flying Eye Hospital, the world's only ophthalmic surgical and teaching hospital in an aircraft.

Orbis International is a nonprofit and humanitarian organization dedicated to treat eye diseases and blindness worldwide. For the past 30 years, it has been conducting hands-on training, public health education and medical services through partnerships with health care professionals and institutions with the support of its corporate sponsors.

Training

The Iloilo-sponsored program also involved hands-on training and lectures by 18 international faculty members and more than 200 doctors, nurses and technicians from Western Visayas.

The missions were conducted from Feb. 21 to March 9 at Flying Eye Hospital and Western Visayas Medical Center in Iloilo City and on March 5 to 9 at Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital in Bacolod City in Negros Occidental.

Aside from the surgical room, the DC-10 jet is equipped with a 48-seat classroom, audio-visual room, recovery room and laser treatment area. The procedures were broadcast to the classroom where eye doctors from Western Visayas interacted with the surgeons.

Melinda Frits, hospital coordinator, said the Flying Hospital has a 22-member staff, including doctors, nurses, aircraft technicians and administrative personnel, coming from the United States, United Kingdom, Norway, India, China, South Africa, Peru, Australia, Mexico, Taiwan, Colombia and the Philippines.

Since 1982, the facility has travelled to 82 countries. Its Iloilo-Bacolod program was the first for this year.

Self-sufficiency aim

David Johnson, hospital director, said the programs involved an evaluation of training needs of Filipino ophthalmologists to ensure that skills-sharing and transfer would be maximized. Patients were preselected and priority was placed on complicated cases.

Dr. Jeanne Barbon, one of two Filipino staff members, said the program did not involve volume surgeries because the focus was to develop self-sufficiency among communities in addressing eye diseases.

Leonardo Merced, a staff nurse who hails from Pampanga, said surgeries that usually lasted 40 minutes took longer because of the real-time lectures and discussions with Filipino doctors.

According to Johnson, preventable eye diseases which lead to blindness in many cases are prevalent in developing countries like the Philippines. At least 80 percent of blindness can be prevented and treated with awareness and improved access to quality eye care.

Doctors from the region were also trained in handling pediatric cases and other subspecialties.

Dr. Karen Rivera-Hernaez, an Iloilo-based ophthalmologist, said the hands-on training was ideal and lectures had broadened perspectives of the eye doctors, especially in dealing with complicated cases.

Charlie Zuniega, a nurse at Western Visayas Medical Center said working at the recovery room of the Flying Hospital had deepened his knowledge about management of eye disease cases.

The program benefited mostly poor patients and those with eye diseases requiring complicated treatment or surgeries.

Pasol said she was blind in one eye for the past three years because of cataract. "I'm, of course, happy that they were able to help me. The operation would have cost around P9,000," she said.

Antonio Purugan, 74, a retired government official from Barotac Nuevo town in Iloilo, also had a cataract removed from his left eye. "I'm very grateful for this program," he said.

EYE DOCTORS operate on a patient on board a DC-10 jet plane at the tarmac of the Iloilo airport.

PH in no-win situation vs world's third military power

We're not intimidated, says Malacañang

SC voids 2 Erap EOs to privatize coco levy funds as unconstitutional

Erap volunteers to be love guru to nation's most eligible bachelor

Leila furious at Comelec's 4-1 rebuff on Abalos case

By Jerome Aning

GMA appointees

'Impeachable'

JBC names 4 nominees for deputy ombudsman

By Philip C. Tubeza

The Daily Gospel

INQUIRER

Opinion

One case down

EDITORIAL

[illegible]

Unsettled 'IOU'

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

[illegible]

Reasons to renew Gus Lagman's appointment

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

[illegible]

A visit to Ireland

SOCIAL CLIMATE

Mahar Mangahas

Andrea@90

COMMENTARY

Butch Hernandez

Safer, more livable Philippine cities

BUSINESS MATTERS

Dean Miguel Luz

Other side of the cup

YOUNG BLOOD

Francine Alessandra "Chin-Chin" Yao

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

A defining issue for P-Noy

LETTERS

[illegible]

—OSCAR SANTOS,
Coconut Industry Reform (COIR) Movement Inc.,
[illegible]

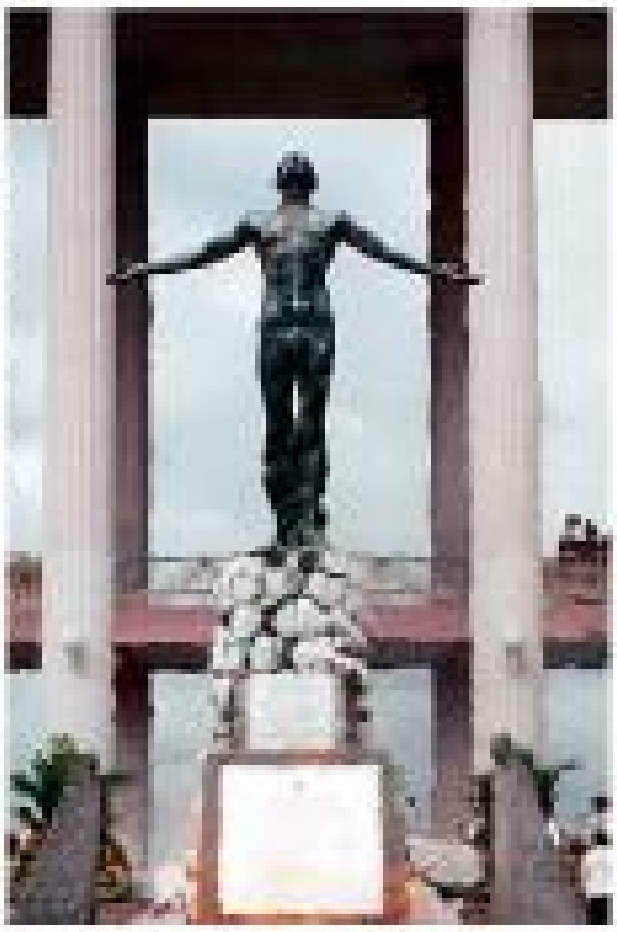
Call to our government: Stand up to China's bullying

[illegible]

—[illegible]
Kaya Natin! Movement for Good Governance and Ethical Leadership,
[illegible]

A plea to UPAA: Make me a proud member of the group

[illegible]



THE OBLATION at the UP campus in Diliman, Quezon City.

[illegible]

—[illegible]
UPAA lifetime member,
[illegible]

Well-deserved accolade for St. Luke's

[illegible]

—[illegible]

Why is Midas speaking for CJ Corona?

[illegible]

—[illegible]

If you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, [illegible]

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

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need a job?

REMORSELESS [illegible]

Films, books inspired murderers

[illegible]

Oslo mass killer

From page A1

[illegible]

'Caring person'

[illegible]

No link

[illegible]

Protecting Norway, Europe

[illegible]

No regrets

[illegible]

Anti-Islamic

[illegible]

'Am not insane'

[illegible]

Knights Templar

[illegible]

Reports from AP and AFP

PNP chief says why Palparan hard to find

From page A1

[illegible]

A different case

[illegible]

Nationwide manhunt

[illegible]

JOVITO PALPARAN

Petition rejected

[illegible]

Military custody upheld

[illegible]

SMC chief Ramon Ang now also PAL president

From page A1

RAMON ANG

[illegible]

'Glory days'

[illegible]

Good for PAL

[illegible]

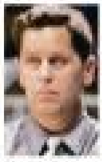
Fleet modernization

[illegible]

SPORTS

Dumandan rallies to end long dry spell

'B-Meg has a chance if it can slow down TNT'



Parks, Bulldogs down Tams, share Filoil lead

UM-Tagum upends UST, gains beach volley semis

Freego-FCBL cagefest today at Buddhacare

Patriots battle Indonesia Warriors sans Alexander

ITU Subic int'l triathlon gets going May 5 and 6

Bulls feel Heat; Suns boost bid

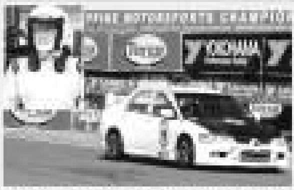
Mayor denies PDBF permit to stage race

Will there ever be a complaint-free game?

ONE GAME AT A TIME

Blockbuster NCA derby set Tuesday at Ynares

Plaza's perfect 4 victories pace 'Bullang -Bullang'



Coseteng hits top gear in GT return

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Iran office, nuns to MMDA: Remove billboards, please

Cultural exec cites 'security, beauty of our diplomatic location'; sisters also see danger

EVEN a foreign mission and a group of nuns are complaining.

Fire traced to candle-lit house kills 2 men in QC

Hazing victim's mom finds 'letter' meant for suspect

READY FOR THE CHASE

Las Piñas deploys over 1K tree planters

METROBRIEFS

Malay Democrats induction

Bonsai garden show in QC

Annabelle posts bail in libelous tweet rap

Jeepney holdup men used 'new modus'

An apology for doing one's job?

On Target

The WORLD

Polls near, Sarkozy prospects grow dim

Syrian troops shell key city; Clinton urges arms embargo

BEIRUT—Syrian troops shelled a rebel-held neighborhood and sent reinforcements to border areas as the opposition called for fresh protests on Friday after the United Nations accused Syrian President Bashar al-Assad of failing to honor a peace plan that went into effect a week ago.

WorldBriefs

Suu Kyi may refuse seat over oath row

US expands probe of misconduct by agents

Spate of teenage suicides alarms Russians

S. Korea confirms deployment of cruise missile

36 killed in over 20 blasts across Iraq

IN THIS ISSUE

BUSINESS

Ayala ups power, infra ante to $500M

Investment grade still PH's holy grail

This year alone, group to invest a record P91 billion in projects

THE AYALA GROUP plans to spend about $500 million over the next five years to build up its portfolio of power generation assets and expand its interests in infrastructure.

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

42.605

STOCK MARKET

▼ 16.82

Share prices continue to dip

BDO sees 19% profit growth

First quarter net up by 15 percent to ₱2.8 billion

By Doris C. Dumlao

[illegible]

[illegible]

PNB issuing debt notes worth ₱3.5B

[illegible]

GT Capital overcomes pre-IPO jitters

[illegible]

Philweb projects doubling of income in '12

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

GREATER PRODUCT CONNECTIVITY

Net 'hot' money inflow down 55% in first 3 mos

Lingering Euro zone woes tempered investor appetite

By Michelle V. Remo

Tobacco firm to push through with expansion plan in PH

GOINGS-ON

BDO's remittance service

Microenterprise development

Culinary team

Power Situation Outlook

for Saturday, 21 April 2012

PBCom aims to fully pay ₱7.6-B PDIC loan this year

By Paolo G. Montecillo

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Name and address of Company/ Employer	Name of Foreign National/ Citizenship	Position
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENT

[illegible]

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ROLEX

PETS

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Daniel B. Ignacio

Daily Mass: April 2012, San Carlos Seminary Main Chapel, Makati City

Funeral Mass: April 22, 2012, San Carlos Seminary Main Chapel, Makati City

Interment: April 22, 2012, Sta. Clara de Montefalco, Pasay City

Paula Sicat Joven

peacefully joined the Lord on April 17, 2012

Her remains lie in state at San Vicente Chapel, Bacolor, Pampanga.

Interment will be on April 21, 2012, at Campo Santo de Bacolor, Pampanga.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7)

ERRATUM

In the ad material of Notice of Filing of Applications for Alien Employment Permits (AEP/S) of the Department of Labor and Employment, National Capital Region (DOLE-NCR) published on March 17, 2012, the name of the foreign national working under Brunei Technical Services Manpower Corp. should be read as Peter John Thomas, British, and not as published.

Our apologies.

More Classifieds

ECOP A19

AusAid B5

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DOE recommends reopening of FPIC pipeline

Regulator seeks green light from Court of Appeals

Analysts shrug off PH inflation worries

Ayala ups power

From page B1

FIT delay to affect $2.5B in renewable energy deals

Investment grade

From page B1

Share prices continue to dip

From page B1

BUSINESS

Banks' soured loans continue downtrend

Now at pre-1997 crisis levels, says BSP

Cebuana Lhuillier to expand network

Meralco's Q1 power sales boosted by robust economy

Meralco's headquarters in Pasig City

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang
PROPERTY

ONE of the country's best livable cities is Cagayan de Oro.

BACOLOD City

FROM OUT OF THE INBOX

The 'other' top Philippine cities

By Tessa R. Salazar

Contributor

THE PAST FEW weeks, Inquirer Property revealed the Philippine cities ideal for young professionals, as chosen by several property analysts. These cities were: Metro Cebu, where the investments and opportunities have consistently been pouring in due to its strategic location; Taguig (Bonifacio Global City), whose city club, modern and sporty qualities attract the international community; Makati, the "traditional business district" where most businesses thrive and mature property developments are located.

Muntinlupa (Alabang), where the first live-work-play concept was put to action; The Clark-Subic corridor, for the availability of developable land, as well as a superior level of infrastructure links (air, land and water transport); Santa Rosa, Laguna, the investors' favorite; and Davao City, for its relatively secure environment.

Inquirer Property also laid down the criteria for the ideal cities, as explained by property analysts. These are: the cost of living index; affordability of rental and home ownership; a well master-planned community; accessibility; job opportunities; connectivity; security and rapid emergency response; empowerment of property buyers; environment and air quality; diversity for global market; and policies to attract sensible capital.

In the conclusion of the series, Inquirer Property has sifted through readers' e-mail. Here, in no particular order, are the most-liked cities, fresh from the inbox: Dumaguete, Ormoc, Cebu, Lucena City, Manila, San Carlos (Negros Occidental), Cagayan de Oro, Puerto Princesa and Bacolod.

THE FAST-PACED lifestyle in Manila eats up your time according to a reader.

DUMAGUETE City is a reader's top choice for a livable city.

More for less in Ormoc City

"I have lived in Manila and Cebu and the fast-paced lifestyle really eats up your time. Here in the provinces, you have more time to do what you want—be it spending time with your friends and family, your hobbies, interests, health, business. All these at a fraction of a cost if you do it in Manila or Cebu," wrote a male resident of Ormoc City in his late 20s (name withheld upon request), who has four kids. He lists his priorities in "personal time," schools, peace and order, Internet connectivity (a must, because he engages in online stock market trading) and proximity to major cities.

"Right now, I live in Ormoc, but ideally I would want to live in Dumaguete City. It's also my first choice followed by Ormoc, Cebu, then Manila. I have lived in all four of these cities."

A 'livable' Cebu

An e-mail from a reader who claims to be Sabino Bapas (Sabino.Bapas@[illegible]), the past president of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry and chair of the Cebu Business Council of the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, wrote: "There are ongoing advocacies on improving the infrastructure of Cebu to address the increasing tourism/business not only for Cebu City but the whole province. The study is granted by the Research Education and Institutional Development Foundation. There is also another advocacy proposed for Mega Cebu. If you come down to it, all these advocacies will harmonize itself, to see more forward toward the future."

The e-mail cited the advocacy of a multi-sector group called the Movement for Livable Cebu. On May 18, 2011, the Cebu Daily News published a story on the signing of a memorandum of agreement during the launch of Public-Private Partnership for Better Infrastructure, or PBI, in Cebu. The story indicated that the REID Foundation would work in partnership with the Cebu Business Club to advocate for better infrastructure in Cebu. REID Foundation would provide technical assistance through a series of workshops on the national and regional economy, national budget, and procurement, among others. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through The Asia Foundation (TAF) is supporting these activities.

Historical San Carlos City

JC, who e-mailed that he is a New York-based Filipino, wrote: "It is not only the amenities itself but the originality and the scope of what a visitor wants to see and feel encompasses the validity of an ideal city. It is not about how tall the buildings are, or the presence of technology."

In his e-mail, he recommended the inclusion of San Carlos City in Negros Occidental, for being the "biggest little city in the Philippines."

"The city has been the sugar hub during the Magsaysay era, and now a booming aquaculture industry. Glimpses of the past can still be seen, such as houses during World War 2, the Ascona and Aliman ancestral home, the Jocson Ranas mansion and the historic San Carlos Milling Co."

Peaceful Lucena City

Dominic Romero writes that Lucena City should be in the top 20 cities in the Philippines.

Romero wrote that "it has the lowest crime rate compared to its counterparts around the country, has the most number of financial and educational institutions, is far less crowded, excellent water and electricity supplies, and a booming real estate and leisure industry. It is also far less polluted and more convenient in terms of public infrastructure."

Clean, green Puerto Princesa, CDO

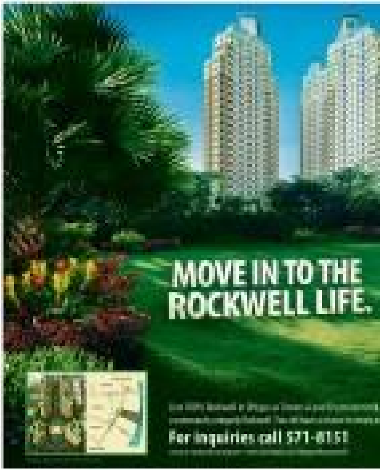
Reader Tony S., who claims to have traveled halfway around the world, said the best livable clean cities in the country are Puerto Princesa in Palawan and Cagayan de Oro.

The best urban livable cities are Cebu, Cagayan de Oro and Davao. The other ideal cities with the best urban lifestyle options are Bacolod and Dumaguete.

THE REID Foundation advocates the infrastructure improvement in Cebu.

Ensuring a cool home for summer

An insider's guide to intelligent h



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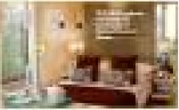

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Are you living amid hazardous substances?

1

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3

4

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

PROPERTY

Heritage resort modern day's window to the past

By Theresa S. Samaniego

LAS Casas Filipinas de Acuzar is the country's "living museum."

IT WAS a search for a torn, dilapidated house in Bagac, Bataan that would give birth to what is now heralded as a "living museum," a heritage resort destination that is truly and uniquely Filipino.

Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar, the brainchild of Jose Acuzar, chair of property developer New San Jose Builders Inc. (NSJBI), may be a breath of fresh air among other resort destinations as it takes visitors back in time with its authentic 19th century Principalia Mansions and stone houses.

"The story of Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar started when Mr. Acuzar discovered that an old house he'd been searching for was torn down. Armed with a picture of the house, Mr. Acuzar and his team scoured junk yards to find the pieces of the house," shared Gina delos Reyes Victorio, manager for strategic marketing and corporate communications of the NSJBI.

"It took years to recreate and restore the house. It was literally a 'plank by plank' and 'brick by brick' effort," Victorio added.

In fact, the resort was originally meant to be a private family getaway for the Acuzars. Over time however, Bagac, Bataan became the site for the restoration of old, dilapidated houses that Acuzar bought from previous owners. Each house was dismantled completely and rebuilt in its present location.

Today Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar spans across a 400-hectare property in Bagac, which rests at the bottom of the Bataan peninsula, between the fine sands of Bagac Bay and the picturesque mountain ranges of Mariveles.

52 hotel rooms

Managed by the Genesis Hotels and Resorts Corp., Las Casas Filipinas currently has 52 hotel rooms, while another 70 rooms are nearing completion.

Guests can meanwhile whet their appetites and satisfy their palates at the traditional Filipino restaurant Marivent Café, tapas bar and deli Taberna del Señor Pepe, and then enjoy a tour at the El Museo artifact museum and art gallery.

The resort likewise showcases 27 traditional Filipino heritage houses (stone houses) that have been reconstructed or rebuilt, intended to reflect their original state.

Dubbed as a "living museum," the resort has many notable structures.

Among these structures would be the Casa Hidalgo, which was lifted from Hidalgo Street in Quiapo, Manila. It was the first location of the University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts.

In its heyday, Casa Hidalgo was frequented by then UP students Fernando Amorsolo, Tomas Mapua, Carlos Francisco and Guillermo Tolentino.

Paseo de Escolta, a reproduction of the old commercial district of Escolta, Manila, houses the Casa Escolta, which has 17 hotel rooms. Each hotel room was designed by Acuzar's wife, Yen, who is an interior designer. The building comes complete with the replicas of the statues that lined the old Escolta buildings.

ACUZAR receiving an award during the Rotary Club of Manila's 8th Annual Tourism Award

Visitors can also stay at the daunting Casa Binondo, which was Binondo's first three-story building in 1890. Casa Binondo housed the precursor of the University of Manila, the Instituto de Manila from 1904 to 1919.

Families can also stay at Casa San Miguel, whose unique features included flower motifs on its galvanized iron window vents.

360° view of resort

Casa Lubao, which features a 360-degree view of the whole resort and an authentic Azotea bed, is also worth a visit, while Casa Bitaw, a reproduction of the house owned by the family of Marcelo Alonso is set to become the main museum and art gallery of Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar.

Another heritage house, Casa Luneta and an authentic Mansion house are also being added. The Umagol River, which runs through the property to Bagac Bay, will soon have a cathedral on its banks.

All these earned Acuzar an honor at the 8th Annual Tourism Awards hosted by The Rotary Club of Manila for his efforts in developing tourism destinations.

THE RESORT showcases 27 traditional Filipino heritage houses.

Victorio noted that while NSJBI is known for its mass housing and infrastructure projects, the company's vision of enriching Filipino families runs true into all its projects.

"All our projects are a testament of how deeply committed we are to the Filipino. Transporting these houses and reconstructing them as honestly as possible at Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar is just one avenue for adding value to the lives of Filipinos," she explained.

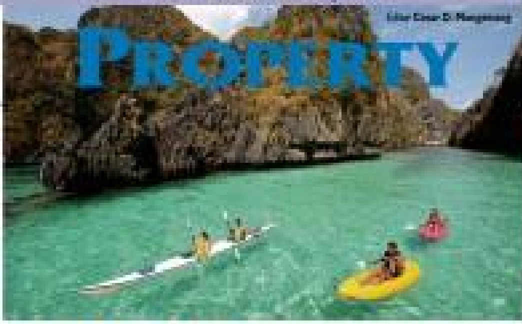
Since its inception in 1996, NSJBI has provided Filipino families with high quality, affordable housing. A pioneer in total vertical integration, all aspects of the company's projects from architecture, engineering and construction to interior design, marketing and sales are handled by NSJBI.

The absence of subcontractors and the streamlining of development translate directly to its speed of production and savings that homebuyers enjoy.

NSJBI currently has 11 vertical and horizontal projects in prime locations in Metro Manila.

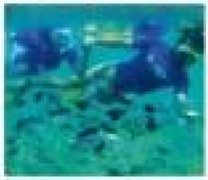
On its 15th year, NSJBI pushes their vision for the Filipino family further by providing venues for health and wellness. The company's latest developments reflected this: Victoria Station 2 in Quezon City and Victoria de Manila 2 on Taft Avenue in Manila are equipped with 2-hectare sports complexes.

Property

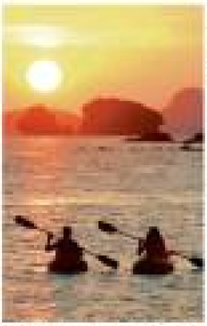


4 El Nido resorts to capture picture-perfect summers

Summer Getaway



Miniloc Island Resort



Lagen Island Resort

Pangulasian Island Resort

Apulit Island Resort

Developer takes the lead in caring for environment

RICHMOND Hills is an American-themed community.

Attractive tree

Bringing the good life

Vinia Residences + VersaFlats showroom displays flexibility of space

To inspire future residents

Amenities

TAGAYTAY Prime Residences

Summer openhouse at Tagaytay Prime Residences

Dev't work on Fisher Mall underway

Products, services

Pueblo de Oro Offers Rustic yet Modern Lifestyle for Batanguenos

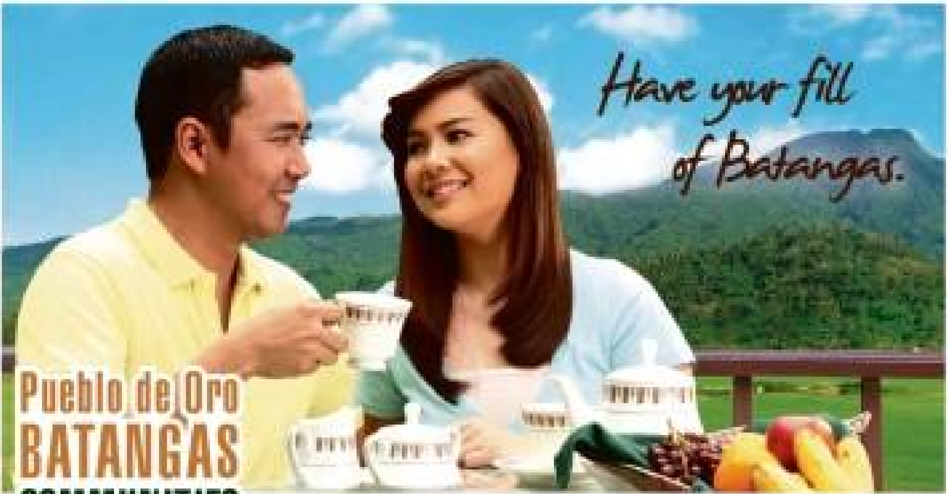
Park Place

The Horizon Residences

La Aldea Del Monte

Park Place clubhouse

Pueblo de Oro BATANGAS COMMUNITIES



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SCIENCE/HEALTH

Editor: Cecile D. Manguiaway

EARTH-FRIENDLY LUNCH

97-M Pinoys meatless for 1 meal equal to CO_2 intake of 326,227 trees

Profound effects

Individual acts count

Aspen PH new pharma on the block

By Theresa S. Samaniego

First Asian subsidiary

Part of commitment

Nipping colorectal cancer in the bud

MEDICAL FILES

Rafael Castillo, M.D.

Life-saving procedure

Long-term effect

Biologic treatment provides solution for rheumatoid arthritis patient

super LifeStyle

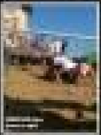
style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

Running for your life was never this much fun

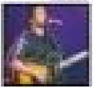
Zombies, flags, costumes–all these and more made Outbreak Manila a fun run like no other

A NOVEL concept for a fun run came to life as Outbreak Manila released 300 zombies to chase 5,000 survivors running for their lives in a "contaminated zone" inside Nuvali, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, last Saturday, April 14.

Running for your life was never this much fun



There's no 'I' in 'teen'–but that nigh



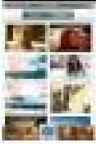
Mel B: From scary to super fit!

t, there was

PUDDING.TO takes classic and awesome filters.

Instagram alternatives

Anti-Facebook but pro-Instagram? Don't worry, you can still get your insta-fix with these other apps



HIPSTER.

By Tarie Fong
Contributor

PIXLR'S filters are fabulous.

Pudding.to

Hipster

Pixlr

EyeEm

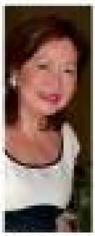
Beauty fun at Etude House's Play House

ETUDE Beauty Kit

LIFESTYLE Travel

What's your favorite 'secret' getaway?

Compiled by
Marge C. Enriquez
Contributor

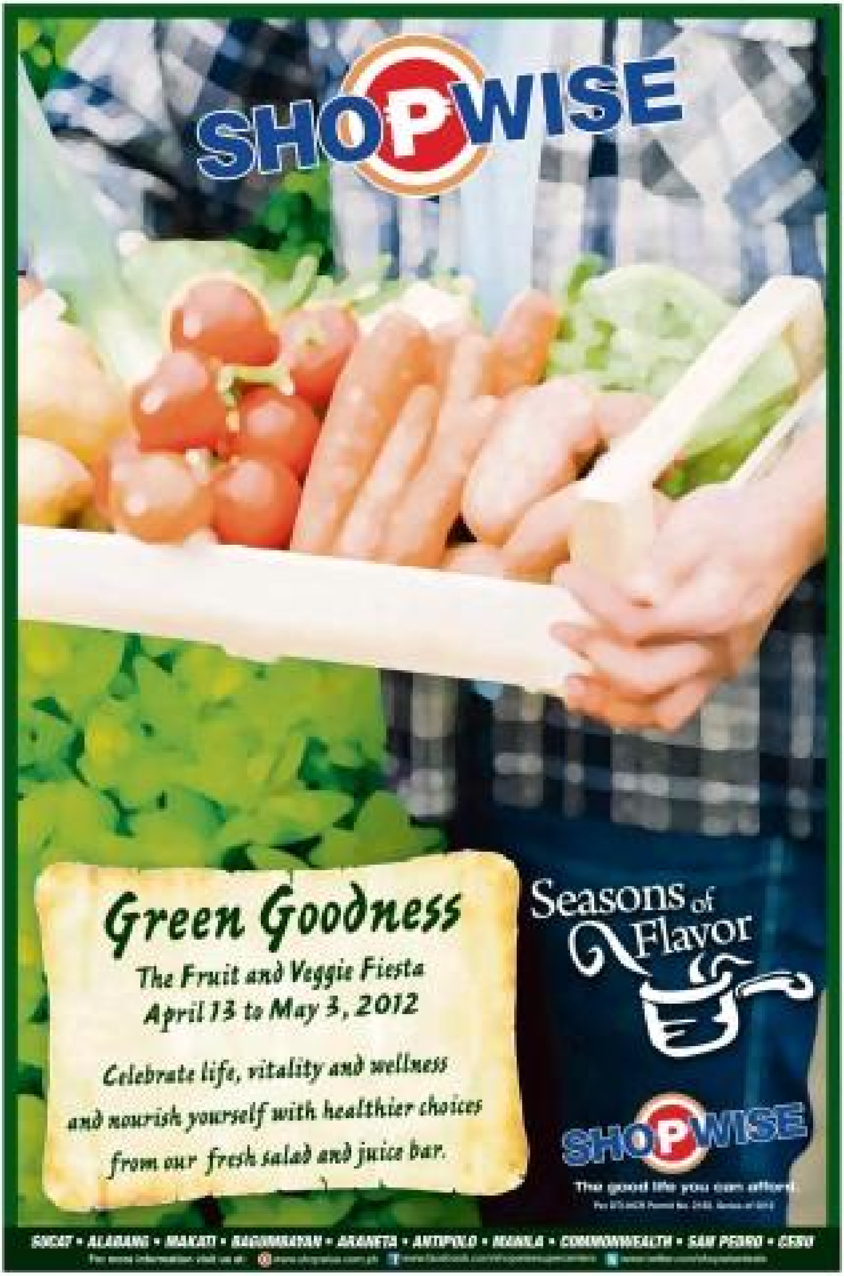


Rita Dy

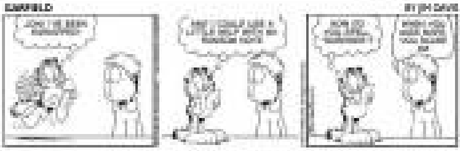
Rita Dy

Travel Executive

Katrina Ponce-Enrile



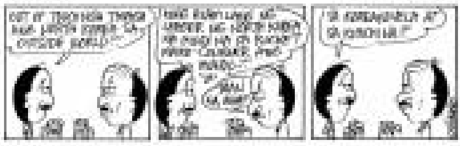
GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



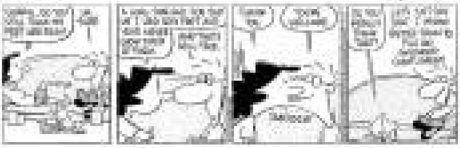
A. LIPIN — BY JESS ABRERA

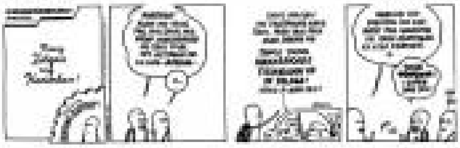
PUGAD BABOY

DICK TRACY

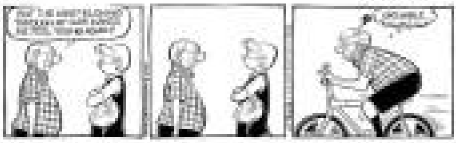


BABY BLUES



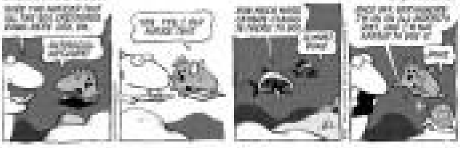


BEN



NUTTS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON



DUSTIN

HOROSCOPE

[illegible]

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

[illegible]

Conceptis Sudoku

	8			9			4	
1		3			5			7
				8			2	
	4							
9		8				3		6
							5	
	3			6				
7			1			9		4
	2			5			7	

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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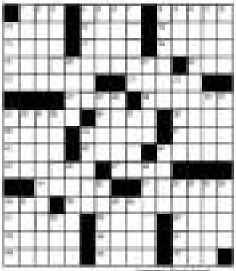
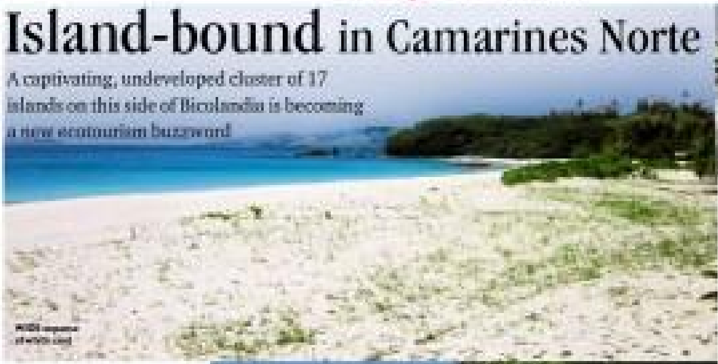


Island-bound in Camarines Norte

A captivating, undeveloped cluster of 17 islands on this side of Bicolandia is becoming a new ecotourism buzzword



MEMBERS of the media during their "working lunch"

Text and photos by Antonio Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

PREPARING for island-hopping

TENT city

Cleaner than Boracay

Best treats this summer

Victory Liner leads Lakbay Norte Adventure

Travel Briefs

Enchanted Kingdom joins travel expo

Where to Stop Where to Go

Have a kiddie dream birthday party at Marriott Manila

Bellissimo Bellevue!

Rewards program for residential meeting bookings at Crowne across SEA

Richmonde's gourmet fete

Perfect summer fun at G Hotel

Tours, Leisure & Chow

Starbucks presents the However-You-Want-It Frappuccino

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Be your own barista. There are more than 87,000 ways to create your perfect beverage at Starbucks and the However-You-Want-It Frappuccino blended beverages have even more options.

[illegible]

Retail price: Tall - P155, Grande - P175, and Venti - P195.

Easter is indeed more fun at the Century Park

[illegible]

Xterra Vaseline men off-road triathlon winners at Crimson Resort and Spa Cebu

[illegible]

[illegible]

FERSAL HOTEL

Gran Prix hotels and resorts

Microtel Hotels · Resorts

[illegible]

Jollibee

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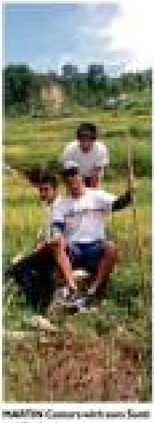
What's your favorite 'secret' getaway?

Rock Drilon,

J. Antonio Mendoza



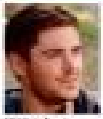
MasterCard takes part in Singapore shopping fest

Cebu Pacific Citibank Card offers free trips

Stylish solutions for traveling light

Discover summer in the city

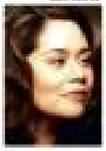
Saturday Special



NOW SHOWING

Missed opportunity

Casting coups



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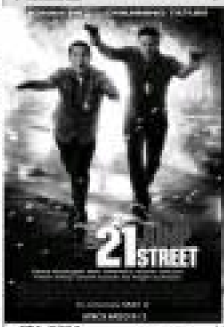

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TACLOBAN

ILOCOS NORTE

DUMAGUETE

BACOLOD

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GENSAN

ANGELES

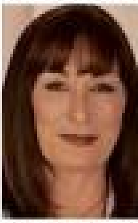
CALASIAO

Anjelica Huston on 'Smash' and her illustrious acting forebears

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

Pictures



HUSTON: "You must have the gumption to stay in the game."

Memorabilia

Dolores Hart's return to Hollywood generates buzz

HART: From actress to nun.

Betty White

Noble example worth emulating

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Rismark

Cure

Big summer sale at ManoMano

Back-to-back concert

International Book Day

La Laguna Festival

'Road to 2013' on ANC

Sergio Mendes

Movies on TV

Missed opportunity

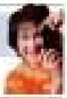
Sense of security

FORUM Viewers extol 'inspirational' celebrities

Knowledge as Investment

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero



Vision

Big summer sale at ManoMano

MONTAGE

Acclaimed mentors at Spotlight

'Wow! Sulit Sub'

'StreetDance 2'

Myrus at Metro Bar

New Sun Shop branch

War exhibit returns to Manila

Casting coups

From page E1

Michael Douglas as Liberace

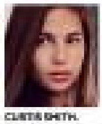
SATURDAY Special

Moment of truth for Jessica

Challenges stars want to surmount before they 'kick the bucket'

By Rito P. Asilo

DANTES. Wants to land a Cessna plane on the South Super Highway—at high noon.



CURTIS SMITH. Intends to travel to at least one country on every continent.

Acceptance speech

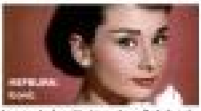
FANS' DAY

Sibling strife heats up

AUNOR. Her legacy is in the heart.

Sogreon:

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder



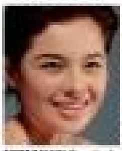
HEPBURN

Exemplary life

Challenges stars want to surmount . . .

Bold choices

Comebacks courageous—and contentious



Sidetracked and sidelined

Chance

CONTINUED ON F4

Angeline Quinto, Ryan Cayabyab Singers whet OPM lovers' appetite

QUINTO

Ryan Cayabyab Singers

Comebacks . . .